

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T GENEVA 5478

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: AMB EARLE'S STATEMENT OF JULY 6, 1977 (SALT TWO-1264)

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMB EARLE AT THE SALT TWO MEET-
ING OF JULY 6, 1977

QUOTE: MR MINISTER:
I

TODAY I SHALL RETURN TO A DISCUSSION OF THE US PROPOSAL TO AGREE
UPON A DATA BASE FOR THE NEW AGREEMENT AND SHALL ALSO REAFFIRM THE
IMPORTANCE THE US ATTACHES TO THIS PROPOSAL.

II

IT IS THE VIEW OF THE US THAT, AT THE TIME OF SIGNATURE OF THE
NEW AGREEMENT, BOTH SIDES SHOULD HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE THAT THEY
HAVE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF ITS PROVISIONS AND THE ASSURANCE
THAT THEY ARE BEING APPLIED UNIFORMLY. AN EXCHANGE OF NUMERICAL
INFORMATION BASED ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WOULD HELP

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TO PROVIDE THAT CONFIDENCE. TO THIS END, THE US HAS PROPOSED THAT
THERE BE AGREEMENT ON THE NUMBERS OF ARMS BY CATEGORY POSSESSED BY
EACH SIDE AS OF THE DATE OF SIGNATURE.

THE NEED TO AGREE UPON A DATA BASE FOR THE NEW AGREEMENT IS
EMPHASIZED BY THE COMPLEXITY OF THAT AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY WHEN
COMPARED TO THE INTERIM AGREEMENT WHICH IT WILL REPLACE. AS A RESULT

OF THIS INCREASED COMPLEXITY, POSSIBILITIES FOR UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF ITS PROVISIONS WILL INCREASE UNLESS THE SIDES TAKE STEPS TO REDUCE SUCH UNCERTAINTIES. ACCORDINGLY, THE US BELIEVES THAT AN AGREED DATA BASE WOULD ASSIST IN RESOLVING QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED IN THE APPLICATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. MOREOVER, IF LEFT UNRESOLVED, SUCH QUESTIONS WOULD REDUCE SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE TWO SIDES HAVE AGREED TO USE NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. THIS UNDERSTANDING IS NOT IN QUESTION. AN AGREED DATA BASE IS COMPLETELY CONSISTENT WITH VERIFICATION BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS, AND IN NO WAY WEAKENS OR UNDERMINES THAT UNDERSTANDING. ON THE CONTRARY, THE US CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT AN AGREED DATA BASE WOULD ASSURE EACH OF THE SIDES THAT THERE IS A COMMON INTERPRETATION AS TO WHICH SPECIFIC ITEMS OBSERVABLE BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS ARE SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

III

THE US DELEGATION HAS PREVIOUSLY TABLED IN THE DRAFTING GROUP A SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR THE AGREED DATA BASE LISTING CATEGORIES OF ARMS FOR WHICH DATA WILL BE EXCHANGED. THIS SUGGESTED FORMAT, WITH NUMBERS TO BE INSERTED AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON IN INFORMAL EXCHANGES, WOULD BE SIGNED OR INITIALED ON THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. IT READS AS FOLLOWS:

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"FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USA AND THE USSR ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, IT IS AGREED THAT THERE CURRENTLY EXIST ON EACH SIDE THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS AS DEFINED AND LIMITED BY THAT AGREEMENT WHICH IS BEING SIGNED TODAY:

US USSR

LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS
FIXED LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS
LAUNCHERS OF HEAVY ICBMS
LAUNCHERS OF ICBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS
LAUNCHERS OF SLBMS
LAUNCHERS OF SLBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS
HEAVY BOMBERS
HEAVY BOMBERS EQUIPPED ONLY FOR ASBMS
ASBMS
ASBMS EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS"

THE CATEGORIES LISTED REPRESENT THOSE ARMS WHICH IN THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT THE SIDES HAVE AGREED SHALL BE LIMITED; WHERE THERE IS NOT AGREEMENT, ARMS WHICH WOULD BE LIMITED BY OUTSTANDING US

PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED. THE NUMBERS IN SOME OF THESE CATEGORIES

ARE PRESENTLY ZERO; SUCH CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN INCLUDED FOR COMPLETE-
NESS IN THE EVENT THAT ANY OF THESE SYSTEMS WERE DEPLOYED DURING
THE PERIOD COVERED BY THE NEW AGREEMENT. SHOULD THE CATEGORIES OF
STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE NEW
AGREEMENT BE ALTERED, APPROPRIATE CHANGES WOULD BE MADE. CHANGES
TO THE AGREED NUMBERS WOULD BE REPORTED TWICE A YEAR IN THE STAND-
ING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION.

IV

ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PROPOSAL FOR AN AGREED DATA BASE WOULD ENABLE
THE SIDES TO REACH PROMPT AGREEMENT ON PARA 2 OF ART XI AND PARA
2 OF ART XVII.

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MR MINISTER, THE US IS CONVINCED THAT AGREEMENT ON A DATA BASE
IS NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE NEW AGREEMENT AND WILL
BENEFIT BOTH SIDES. WE REMAIN READY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS WHICH
YOU MIGHT HAVE AND TO DISCUSS WITH YOU FURTHER THIS PROPOSAL FOR AN
AGREED DATA BASE AND OUR SUGGESTIONS FORHOW IT MIGHT BE IMPLEMENTED.
UNQUOTE. EARLE

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